

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a flow controlling apparatus provided in a node of a packet routing network, the flow controlling apparatus performing a rate-based congestion control on packets supplied via an incoming line as well as buffer management. The invention also relates to a node apparatus that incorporates such a flow controlling apparatus. In the flow controlling apparatus and the node apparatus, a frequency at which individual packets belonging to the flows are to be discarded during the course of buffer management are kept, for each flow, at approximately the same value. Therefore, in a network to which the invention is applied, the transmission quality is kept uniform and the service quality is highly maintained while flexible adaptation is made to various service forms.